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MAY 1957

PFIAB/NSC Review Completed.

**MEMORANDUM FOR :** The Chairman  
The President's Board of Consultants  
on Foreign Intelligence Activities

**SUBJECT :** Production of Current Intelligence Relating  
to the National Security

**REFERENCE :** Memorandum, "Current Intelligence  
Activities of the Intelligence Community,"  
18 March 1957

1. Your memorandum has been circulated to the members of the Intelligence Advisory Committee. These representatives of the intelligence community have reviewed with me existing procedures in the production of current intelligence. The IAC members are agreed that the CIA daily and weekly publications are appropriate vehicles for the discharge of the responsibility of the Director of Central Intelligence for the timely production and dissemination of current intelligence relating to the national security. These CIA publications are produced primarily to meet the needs of the President and the National Security Council; in addition they serve to fill the common needs of the interested departments and agencies of the Government for non-departmental intelligence. The IAC members, however, are also agreed as to the necessity for departmental current intelligence publications to fulfill their respective specific requirements, recognizing the importance of avoiding unnecessary duplication of effort.

2. In order to improve the processes of producing current intelligence relating to the national security, I have proposed and the IAC members have agreed that CIA will establish more systematic consultation with the other IAC members.

NSC review completed.

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3. CIA is instituting ways and means of ensuring that CIA officers, in their continuous consultations with the intelligence components of the departments and agencies, ascertain to the extent feasible departmental views on the selection and treatment of items contained in these CIA publications.

4. The other IAC members, for their part, are prepared to consult with CIA in order to ensure consideration of departmental views in connection with the preparation of these publications.

5. The IAC is reviewing the dissemination of the CIA daily and weekly publications to ensure that such dissemination is made on an agreed need-to-know basis.

6. Since the FBI jurisdiction is limited to internal security matters, it is not in a position to comment on the adequacy of these current foreign intelligence publications. The FBI receives these current intelligence publications and finds them useful in its planning.

7. I will be glad to discuss with you or your Board the other matters raised in your memorandum.

**SIGNED**

**ALLEN W. DULLES**  
Director

Typed in IAC/S - 30 Apr 1957

**Distribution:**

O&1 - Addressee  
2 - Signer  
1 - DD/I  
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**THE PRESIDENT'S BOARD OF CONSULTANTS  
ON FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES**

EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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18 March 1957

MEMORANDUM for the Director of Central Intelligence

Noted by DD-1  
APR 3 1957

Through: Mr. L. B. Kirkpatrick  
Inspector General  
Central Intelligence Agency

Subject: Current Intelligence Activities  
of the Intelligence Community

As you are no doubt aware the President's Board has just completed a rather comprehensive study of the Current Intelligence activities of the Intelligence Community and has directed me to transmit to you the following brief highlights of its findings.

General. There is little evidence that the responsibility for the correlation and evaluation of intelligence relating to the National Security (National Intelligence) assigned to the Central Intelligence Agency by the provisions of the National Security Act, insofar as it applies to Current Intelligence, is being authoritatively discharged at any stage in the Current Intelligence processes.

There appears to be today no Current Intelligence periodic publication which carries the correlated judgments of the several elements of the Intelligence Community. The daily and weekly Current Intelligence documents of the Central Intelligence Agency which come closest to having the stature of Community documents have a limited Community usefulness but their contents neither in substance nor in the priority of selection of the included items are always endorsed by the separate elements of the Community. This lack of a Community Current Intelligence document-represented as such-through which some real attempt is made to coordinate the interpretations of the several members of the Intelligence Community of items of Current Intelligence information (and assist in their selection) appears to have fostered on

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the part of each element of the Community a self-felt necessity to conduct its own Current Intelligence operations on an almost wholly independent basis.

Collection. There does exist today some show of coordination of collection requirements and in the conduct of collection activities but, in practice, very little real coordination exists. As a result the collection "take", both in the COMINT and other areas, is enormous and imposes communications demands that can't possibly be met in any acute situation on any basis of proper precedence. Unless a better system of control of collection activities and of communications use are injected into Current Intelligence processes dangerous communications failures in times of real need would appear to be almost unavoidable.

Production. Today every IAC agency is producing its own Current Intelligence of both the "National" and "Departmental" variety. Each is arriving at its own political, economic, scientific and technical judgments over and beyond those which it is reaching in its area of assigned dominant interest. This is attributable in considerable degree to the latitude in intelligence collection and production which is allowed to each intelligence element under relevant intelligence directives and committee agreements but it is also symptomatic of the inclination of each of the intelligence elements to be self sufficient in the conduct of its intelligence business. The weaknesses inherent in this situation, insofar as they relate to the production of correlated end results, are, it is believed, obvious.

The Board recognizes the over-riding influence that the desires of the Chief of each separate Agency represented in the Intelligence Community brings to bear on the operations of his intelligence unit and, insofar as the Board has observed, each unit does appear to be meeting the demands of its Chief to his general satisfaction. Nevertheless, the Board feels that the interests of National Security could be served better through the development of a more closely correlated Community Current Intelligence effort than is now evident and which might possibly transcend this Agency influence.

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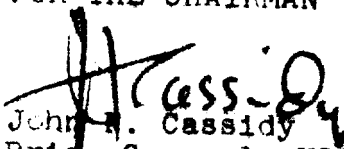
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Security. Because of the widespread habit of the many individuals engaged in Current Intelligence in Washington who are doing business among themselves by telephone the Board feels that the security of intelligence methods and sources is in constant jeopardy. Conversations dealing with classified matters of all kinds are being carried on by telephone as a matter of routine practice between individuals of the same agency and among these of the separate agencies, and, - not only between their respective offices but frequently between the offices and homes of those involved - over public lines. The Board feels that this is potentially a very dangerous state of affairs which should be taken in hand if our closest secrets are to be kept from constant exposure to compromise.

You doubtless are cognizant of the matters dealt with briefly here and are acting to effect corrections where needed. The Board feels, however, that it may be helpful to you in the discharge of your correlating duties to focus them for you in this manner.

FOR THE CHAIRMAN

  
John A. Cassidy  
Brig. General, USA (Ret.)  
Staff Director

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